

# Cutting the Corners — By W. R. Hoefler

## HASHING THE SPORTS

**T**HE Willard-Fulton fight is mired.  
 The Navy crew beat Penn a length.  
 Jess Willard states he has retired.  
 Let's hope so. Matty's club shows  
 strength.  
 Tris Speaker's batting well this summer.  
 The Detroit Tigers seem quite tame.  
 This Dempsey boxer's quite a comer.  
 Young Cooper pitched a shut out  
 game.  
 Earl Hamilton has joined the Navy.  
 B. Oldfield drove another race  
 last week. Again he cooped the gravy.  
 More experts dope the pennant race.  
 This anti-loafing law's a dandy;  
 It wasn't meant for Tyrus Cobb  
 But other guys might find it handy  
 And I might hafta getta job.  
 The Minor Leagues have been adjusted.  
 Sam Vick has joined the army ranks.  
 Oh, gosh! My typewriter just busted  
 And so I'll have to stop here. Thanx.

**C**AN'T quite dope out some of these  
 'home' scribes. When their club is hit-  
 ting they're merely showing their usual  
 form. When they ain't pasting the onion  
 they're in a slump. Opposing pitchers  
 have nothing to do with the case, it seems.

**L**IKE Jessica Willard, the German Navy  
 isn't exactly retired, but it won't come  
 out and fight and give a chance to those  
 who can.



'BABE' RUTH

**T**HE pitchers aint supposed to hit.  
 It ain't a pitcher's custom.  
 But this bird Ruth, oft takes a fit.  
 Whene'er he doffs his pitcher's mitt,  
 To do his little batting bit;  
 And gosh, how he can bust 'em.

Oh, gaze upon this funny chap;  
 This freak of twirling creatures.  
 A sassy grin upon his map,  
 He taps the plate a gentle rap  
 Then soaks the pill an awful slap  
 And kicks it in the bleachers.

## Diamond Dust—The Bard's Lament

**O**H, would I were a player; a chesty baseball slave. My life would then be gayer. I'd be a happy knave. I'd field the twisting bounders and slam the lusty clout; grab off the sizzling grounders; get paid for striking out. The fans would raise a clatter whene'er I took my bat and ambled to the platter and knocked a pitcher flat And if, in nervous flurry, perchance I'd lose the game, oh Agnes, I should worry! They'd pay me just the same. Instead of writing jingles like this here ballyard lay, I'd crack out baseball bingles and eat most every day. I'd steal a flock of bases and with success I'd flirt. Like Cobb, I'd swing three aces and own another shirt. I'd cut my baseball capers and girls, o'er all the land, would lamp the daily papers and cry, "Ain't he just grand!" I'd try to be a terror and do my baseball bit. I'd get my daily error and sometimes get a hit. And if I sprained my thorax and bent my ear or knee, they'd rub the hurt with borax and nurse me tenderly. In spring I'd be unruly and join the hold-out mob until they slipped yours truly a bonus with his job. I'd make the twirlers shiver whene'er I rambled nigh and every time I'd flivver I'd have my alibi and call the ump a cripple and say his brains are dead because I couldn't triple but fanned the air instead. But, 'stead of hitting bingles and earning lots of yen, I gotta write these jingles and eat just now and then.

**P**ASSING other Boston batters to take  
 a chance on Ruth is like dodging a  
 couple of flivvers to take a chance on the  
 Twentieth Century Express.

### DIAMOND DEFINITIONS

**S**ACRIFICE Hit: A hit, upon the jaw  
 of an umpire or other person which  
 causes the hittee to sacrifice a sum of  
 money or his liberty. See Byron vs.  
 McGraw, also Assault and Battery.

**I**NSIDE Baseball: The kind of baseball  
 played by inmates of Sing Sing and  
 other penitentiary leagues.

**B**ATTING Average: The number oppo-  
 site a player's name the end of the  
 season which entitles him to more pay, a  
 job in the bushes, or the tin can. See  
 Cobb, Rousch, Speaker, Sisler, et al.

**S**PRING Training: The source of many  
 wonderful fairy tales about youthful  
 phenoms from the pens and imaginations  
 of baseball scribes.

**P**ICKLE the Pill: To soak, paste, biff,  
 bang, kiss, wallop or sting the onion,



apple, pill, or ball upon the snoot, seam,  
 kisser, nose or stitch. To Bakerize a base-  
 ball. See Marquard and Mathewson vs.  
 Baker.

**F**ALLAWAY slide: The trip a player  
 takes when his hitting falls away to  
 nothing and he slides back to the minors.

**C**OBB: A baseball miracle which hap-  
 pens only once in a baseball life time.

**U**MPIRE: A necessary evil who always  
 calls our players out and the visiting  
 players safe.

**H**OLD-OUT: Ball-player, dissatisfied,  
 who ought to hold on to the cinch he  
 has and not risk being left OUT in the  
 cold.

**D**OPE: Facts, figures and fiction by  
 experts, by which they foretell pennant  
 races.

**A**LIBI: Explanations given for 'dope'  
 going wrong

**B**ONE: Mistake committed by player's  
 head. Also, substance of which cer-  
 tain players' heads are thought to be con-  
 structed.